To the distinguished members of the Labor Committee:

I am writing to urge the passage of SB221, An Act Concerning Paid Family and Medical Leave.

I am a self employed consultant and I have never in the 30+ years that I've worked for myself had the luxury of a regular salary or benefits. In the last few years, I have coped with several family health issues and taken time off work to help as I have needed. Being self-employed, nobody pays me when I'm not working. I see the real need for workers to have paid leave from their jobs. Workers in other countries, European countries, for example, have this security benefit and I strongly believe American workers should too. I will not benefit by the change in the law but my children and other people will. It is one of the marks of a civilized society to provide this benefit for workers.

I hope the Committee and the General Assembly does the right thing and enact SB221 this session.

Thank you, Cynthia Rabinowitz Bethlehem